available in this year.

(d) 1993-94 - Rs. 417.00 crores
1994-95 - Rs. 479.00 crores
1995-96 - Rs. 575.00 crores

(e) Yes, Sir.

Construction of air strip at Darjeeling

4042. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether an air-strip is under construction at Rungbull district in Darjeeling Hills;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the construction work is being executed by the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council;

(c) whether the Government have approved this project and allotted funds for the same; and

(d) if so, the amount allotted and released so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Gauge Conversion

4043. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gauge conversion work of Hassan-Mangalore railway line is going on as per schedule;

(b) if so, the total funds earmarked for this work and the time by which the above work is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not completing the work within the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Hassan-Sakleshpur will be completed by September'97 and the rest of the line by December'98.

(b) The cost of the project is Rs. 185 crore of the which Rs. 64.08 crore is likely to be spent by 31.03.97. Rs. 24.00 crore has been provided in 97-98.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Halt of Trains at Mankapur Junction

4044. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Mankapur is a big Junction in Uttar Pradesh and a big telephone factory is also there but inspite of it, no important train has its halt there due to which the residents of Mankapur have to face great inconvenience;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide halt of some trains (such as Vaishali Express and Amrapali Express) at Mankapur Junction keeping in view the constant inflow of passengers there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 11 trains in one direction and 12 in the other are presently stopping at Mankapur Junction providing direct service from Mankapur to Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Cochin, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Lucknow, Barauni, etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Not found justified.

Stoppage to Express Trains at Bilha Nagar Railway Station

4045. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to provide stoppage to Sarnath Express, Ahmedabad-Howrah Express and Link Express at Bilha Nagar (Bilaspur) Railway Station in Madhya Pradesh for the benefit of the citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the income accrued by the Government from the said Railway Station during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

Opening of New Divisions

4046. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for opening new Divisions in Western Railway received by the Government, Division-wise;

(b) the number of proposals out of them accepted, Division-wise; and

(c) the criteria adopted in acceptance of these proposals?